

**City of Franklin Common Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
November 17, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Indiana was called to order at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 70 E. Monroe Street, with Mayor Joseph E. McGuinness presiding. Council members Joseph Abban, Joseph Ault, Kenneth Austin, Stephen Barnett, Robert Henderson, Stephen Hougland, and Richard Wertz answered roll call. Clerk-Treasurer Janet P. Alexander, Records Clerk Kristi Bruther, City Attorney Lynnette Gray were also present.

Mayor McGuinness opened the meeting and asked the Clerk-Treasurer to call the roll. Mayor McGuinness led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Announcements & Presentations

There were no announcements or presentations.

Consent Agenda

Mayor McGuinness presented the consent agenda for approval.

- Approval of the November 3, 2014 Common Council Minutes

Council President Barnett stated that he would like to amend the council comments in the November 3, minutes to read as follows: "Councilor Henderson stated that the Redevelopment Commission (RDC) would be paying \$6,200 of the Parking Study instead of \$1,600 that was listed in the minutes." The Clerk Treasurer agreed. Then Council President Barnett made a motion to approve the amended minutes, seconded by Councilor Wertz. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Old Business

Council President Barnett made a motion to read each item under old business by title only, seconded by Councilor Abban. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Resolution No.: 14-14 A Resolution Setting Forth Final Action in Determining an Economic Revitalization Area and Confirming Resolution No. : 14-13 A Resolution Establishing an Economic Revitalization Area and Designating a Tax Abatement for Faulkenberg Printing - Mayor McGuinness read the title aloud. Community Development Director Linke was available to answer questions. Mayor McGuinness opened the matter for public hearing. No one asked to speak. The public hearing was closed. Councilor Austin, seconded by Councilor Abban made a motion to approve. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Resolution No.: 14-16 A Resolution Setting Forth Final Action in Determining an Economic Revitalization Area and Confirming Resolution No.: 14-15 A Resolution Establishing an Economic Revitalization Area and Designating a Tax Abatement for Countertop Connections -

Mayor McGuinness read the ordinance aloud by title only. Community Development Director Linke was present to answer questions. Mayor McGuinness opened the matter for public hearing. No one asked to speak. The public hearing was closed. Councilor Austin, seconded by Councilor Abban made a motion to approve. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

New Business

Council President Barnett made a motion to read each item under new business by title only, seconded by Councilor Austin. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Common Council Budgetary Resolution No.: 14-06 A Budgetary Resolution Authorizing a Transfer from Fire Pension 129 to Supplies 200 in the amount of \$9,000.00 - Mayor McGuinness read by title only. Fire Chief Henderson appeared before the Council to request a transfer of monies from Fire Pension 129 to Supplies 200 in the amount of \$9,000. Council President Barnett, seconded by Councilor Austin, made a motion to approve. A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried.

Abandoned, Blighted, & Tax Delinquent Property Update - Community Development Specialist Oliver appeared before the Council to provide an update on abandoned and blighted tax delinquent properties. She explained that there are four properties that have been maintained by the City, that have thousands of dollars in past due property taxes: 544 West Jefferson Street, 420 West Jefferson Street, 280 Circle Drive, and 934 Johnson Avenue. Ms. Oliver is requesting that the City move forward with obtaining the assignment certificate of sale for these properties. City Attorney Gray explained the process. A new law allows a government entity to “give” the property to another government entity. There are minimal costs to the City, which can be funded through existing approved Community Development Department or Board of Public Works and Safety for expenses such as title work and insurance, advertising and legal fees. A discussion held. The Council was in consensus to allow the City to continue to move forward with this process, with the understanding that there is a 120 day redemption period.

Other Business

City Council Appointments to RDC - Mayor McGuinness stated that the appointment to the Redevelopment Commission (RDC) could be made at this meeting or tabled until a meeting in December. The appointment is January 1 through December 31, 2015; therefore the appointment should be made by the end of the calendar year. Councilor Henderson and Councilor Wertz both stated that they are willing to serve another term. Council President Barnett, seconded by Councilor Wertz, made a motion to appoint Councilor Henderson to the Redevelopment Commission (RDC). A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried. Council President Barnett, seconded by Councilor Henderson, made a motion to appoint Councilor Wertz to the Redevelopment Commission

(RDC). A voice vote was taken with all members stating aye. The motion carried. Plan Commission and BZA must be appointed at the first meeting in January 2015.

Mayor Comments

Mayor McGuinness requested that the Council consider moving the start time of the Council meetings to 6:00 p.m. from December 1, 2014 meeting and go through the second meeting of March, 2015. He asked if the members had any objections to this plan. There was a general discussion and the members agreed to move the meeting to 6:00 p.m. from 6:30 p.m. Clerk-Treasurer Alexander stated that her office will communicate the new notice of meeting times. The new start time will start with the December 1st meeting.

Council Comments

Councilor Wertz announced that the Redevelopment Commission (RDC) is meeting tomorrow, November 18, 2014 at 8:00 a.m.

Councilor Abban stated that the Meijer annexation and rezoning has been pushed off until December.

Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Common Council, a motion and a second were made to adjourn at 6:56 p.m. The next regular meeting will be held Monday, December 1, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer
Enrolled: 11/25/2014

Joseph McGuinness, Mayor

Attest:

Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer